

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 OMB-01 /057 W
-----200410Z 019318 /15

R 191322Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2811
INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMCONSUL MADRAS
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PGOV PINT IN
SUBJECT: GOI IMPOUNDS SANJAY'S AND BANSI LAL'S PASSPORTS;
NAMES RETIRED JUSTICES TO HEAD INVESTIGATIONS.

REF: NEW DELHI 5008

1. FOLLOWING THE GOVERNMENT'S ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO
INVESTIGATE CERTAIN SCANDALS AND OTHER "MISDEEDS" ALLEGEDLY
COMMITTED BY MEMBERS OF MRS. GANDHI'S GOVERNMENT (REFTEL),
HOME MINISTER CHARAN SINGH DISCLOSED TO NEWSMEN APRIL 18
THAT THE HOME MINISTRY HAD ORDERED THE PASSPORTS OF SANJAY
GANDHI, BANSI LAL AND BRAHMACHARI DHIRENCRA TO BE IMPOUNDED.
THE GOI CAN TAKE THIS ACTION IF THE PASSPORT HOLDER'S
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PRESENCE IS REQUIRED IN CONNECTION WITH AN INQUIRY OR A
CRIMINAL CASE. DHIRENDRA REPORTEDLY RUNS A SERIES OF YOGA
CENTERS AND HAS BEEN CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH SANJAY FOR
THE PAST THREE YEARS.

2. IN A RELATED DEVELOPMENT, CHARAN SINGH ANNOUNCED
THE APPOINTMENT OF THREE RETIRED SUPREME COURT JUSTICES TO

HEAD THE COMMISSIONS OF INQUIRY. J.C. SHAH, WHO BRIEFLY SERVED AS CHIEF JUSTICE BEFORE RETIRING FROM THE SUPREME COURT IN 1971, WILL HEAD THE COMMISSION WHICH WILL INVESTIGATE COMPLAINTS OF EXCESSES, MALPRACTICES AND ABUSE OF AUTHORITY ALLEGEDLY COMMITTED DURING THE EMERGENCY. H.R. KHANNA, WHO RESIGNED FROM THE SUPREME COURT LAST JANUARYMEN PROTEST OVER BEING SUPERSEDED BY M. H. BEG AS CHIEF JUSTICE (NEW DELHI 1327), WILL OVERSEE THE INVESTIGATION OF MARUTI. P. JAGANMOHA REDDY, WHO RETIRED FROM THE COURT ESRLY IN 1975 AND NOW IS VICE CHANCELLOR OF OSMANIA UNIVERSITY IN HYDERABAD, WILL HEAD THE COMMISSION INVESTIGATING THE NAGARWALA AFFAIR AS WELL AS THE ACTIVITIES OF BANSI LAL. CHARAN SINGH ALSO SAID THAT THE GOI WAS FRAMING THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMISSIONS. HE ADDED THAT THE FORMAL CREATION OF THE COMMISSIONS WOULD BE ANNOUNCED SOON.

3. COMMENT: OF THE THREE JUSTICES, KHANNA IS THE MOST CONTROVERSIAL. HE WAS ONE OF THE JUSTICES TO RULE AGAINST MRS. GANDHI IN HER 1975 APPEAL OF THE ALLAHABAD COURT CASE AND WAS THE ONLY JUSTICE TO RULE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT IN LAST YEAR'S HABEAS CORPUS CASE.
SCHNEIDER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CORRUPTION, INVESTIGATIONS, PASSPORT RESTRICTIONS
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Sent Date: 19-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NEWDE05608
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770136-0542
Format: TEL
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770443/aaaabkrl.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cde5b4a2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 NEW DELHI 5008
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2764326
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOI IMPOUNDS SANJAY'S AND BANSI LAL'S PASSPORTS; NAMES RETIRED JUSTICES TO HEAD INVESTIGATIONS.
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, IN, (GANDHI, SANJAY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cde5b4a2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009